

TOWN OF PATAGONIA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
7:00 P.M. - AUGUST 12, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL/THIS MEETING WILL HAVE PARTIAL REMOTE PARTICIPATION WITH LIMITED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. CORRECTION AND OR APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM:
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JULY 22, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M. WITH PARTIAL PARTICIPATION WITH LIMITED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING.
5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC A. R. S. §38-431-01(H): AT THIS TIME, ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IS ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COMMITTEE, SUBJECT TO REASONABLE TIME AND MANNER RESTRICTIONS. THE PUBLIC WILL ONLY BE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS LISTED FOR PUBLIC INPUT PURSUANT TO TOWN CODE SECTION 2-5-6. PURSUANT TO THE ARIZONA OPEN MEETING LAW, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CALL TO THE PUBLIC, INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL MAY RESPOND TO CRITICISM MADE BY THOSE WHO HAVE ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL, MAY ASK STAFF TO REVIEW THE MATTER, OR MAY ASK THE MATTER BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA. HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY SHALL NOT DISCUSS OR TAKE LEGAL ACTION ON MATTERS RAISED DURING AN OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THE MATTERS ARE PROPERLY NOTICED FOR DISCUSSION AND LEGAL ACTION.

OLD BUSINESS

6. MAYOR'S REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS. AT THIS TIME THE MAYOR MAY WISH TO CALL UPON THE COUNCIL OR STAFF FOR CURRENT EVENTS OR MONTHLY REPORTS.
7. STAFF REPORTS ON ONGOING ACTIVITIES WITH POSSIBLE DIRECTION BY COUNCIL:
 - A. POLICE REPORT
 - B. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS
 - C. FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT--ATTACHED

NEW BUSINESS

8. SOUTH32 WILL MAKE THEIR FINAL PLAN PRESENTATION SO THEY CAN RECEIVE THE NOTICE TO PROCEED ON THE ROUTE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS THAT WERE PRESENTED AND APPROVED AT THE JUNE 24, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.
9. CAROLYN SHAFER, CHAIRPERSON OF THE FLOOD AND FLOW COMMITTEE, WILL GIVE A BRIEF UPDATE ON THE COMMITTEES WORK AND THEIR REQUEST THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SENDING LETTERS TO THE

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FOREST SERVICE REQUESTING A GROUNDWATER STUDY AND SOUTH32 FOR WATER REPORTS. LETTERS ATTACHED.

10. VICE-MAYOR STABILE WANTS TO DISCUSS SOUTH32'S PLAN TO DISCHARGE 1.7 BILLION GALLONS OF WATER INTO HARSHAW CREEK. IF THE CONTINUED DISCHARGE TAKES PLACE OVER A 4 YEAR PERIOD, WHAT EFFECT WILL THIS HAVE ON THE ALLUVIAL BASIN THAT THE TOWN IS BUILT ON? WHAT EFFECT WILL THIS DISCHARGE HAVE ON POTENTIAL FLOODING DURING MONSOON SEASON? VICE-MAYOR STABILE BELIEVES THAT SOUTH32 SHOULD HAVE AN INDEPENDENT GROUP DO A WATER STUDY TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTS OF THE DISCHARGE INTO THE TOWN'S WATER BASIN.
11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF A PORTION OF RED ROCK AVENUE IN THE LINDER ADDITION. THE PORTION OF RED ROCK AVENUE CONSIDERED FOR SALE HAS NEVER BEEN USED BY THE TOWN. THE DESCRIPTION AND MAP IS ATTACHED.
12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 20-13, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA ARIZONA, TRANSFERRING FUNDS WITHIN THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.
13. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 20-14, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, ARIZONA, DECLARING AND ADOPTING THE RESULTS OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION HELD ON AUGUST 4, 2020.
14. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.
15. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
AT THIS TIME THE COUNCIL MAY BRING FORTH TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS, AND IF PREVIOUSLY REJECTED BY THE MAYOR, THE COUNCIL MAY VOTE ON WHETHER TO PLACE THOSE ITEMS ON A FUTURE AGENDA PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-5-5 OF THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA, ARIZONA CODE. THE COUNCIL MAY NOT DISCUSS, DELIBERATE OR TAKE ANY ACTION ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TOPICS OTHER THAN TO VOTE TO INCLUDE THEM ON A FUTURE AGENDA. A. R. S. §38-431.02(H).
16. **ADJOURN**



TOWN OF PATAGONIA

P.O. BOX 767

PATAGONIA, AZ 85624

Andrea Wood
Mayor

August 12, 2020

Coronado National Forest Supervisor Kerwin Dewberry

310 North Congress Street

Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: Request for Municipal Supply Watershed Groundwater Study

Greetings Supervisor Kerwin Dewberry:

The Town of Patagonia is situated in a semi-arid Chihuahuan Desert Grassland environment. The Town gets its water from the Sonoita Creek and tributary Harshaw Creek drainages. These drainages are recognized officially by the US Forest Service as a Municipal Watershed.

In a 2007 study posted in the journal Science (http://ocp.ldeo.columbia.edu/res/div/ocp/pub/seager/Seager_etal_transition_2007.pdf), states that much of the Southwest region has been in a severe drought since 2000, which the study's analysis of computer climate models shows as the beginning of a long dry period. The study predicted a permanent drought by 2050 throughout the Southwest — one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. Many other more recent climate change studies and models also predict warmer and drier conditions for our arid southwest US region.

The Patagonia Mountains currently have multiple mining company proposals within the Patagonia Mountains. The Town of Patagonia is greatly concerned about the potential cumulative impacts from the multiple mining activities that are on-going and proposed. Mining activities in the Patagonia Mountains have a well documented history of water contamination problems within the Town's Municipal Watershed. Water is the one thing that all life forms can't live without. The quality and quantity of this community's water supply are of significant concern.

Please conduct a comprehensive surface and ground water study which should be paid for by the companies seeking to perform any mine-related activity (including exploratory drilling) in the Harshaw Creek, Redrock Canyon, Middle Sonoita Creek, Big Casa Blanca Canyon, and Upper Sonoita Creek watersheds. We ask that the study include:

- Conceptual finite element (FeFlow) and finite difference 3-D (Modflow) groundwater models
- Flow rate and contaminate fate and transport analysis



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Andrea Wood
Mayor

- A Three-Dimensional Hydrogeologic Model, including an aeromagnetic geologic survey, similar to the study done for Rio Rico and Nogales at <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20185062>
- A full geographic coverage of the contributing watershed's groundwater basins, including updated geologic mapping of all contributing media formations (Aerial Electromagnetic Mapping by USGS recommended - Mark W. Bultman, et al)
- Groundwater level monitoring in Town of Patagonia wells and surrounding wells
- Streamflow water quality and quantity monitoring in and "around" Town of Patagonia
- Isotope study to confirm sources of Town of Patagonia's and Sonoita Creek's water (Dr Jennifer McIntosh proposal)
- Full geographic coverage of contributing watersheds groundwater basin, including updated geologic mapping of all contributing media formations (Aerial electromagnetic mapping by USGS - Mark W Bultman, et al)
- Heavy metals baseline data collection with "during" and "post-closure" monitoring

The Town of Patagonia asks to be included in the decision making on the contractor/ hydrologist chosen for this work; our preference is that the USGS conduct this study. And the comprehensive surface and groundwater study should be conducted before any water dependent industrial activities begin.

The 1897 Organic Act established the care and management of forests to secure "favorable conditions of water flow" as a principle purpose of the Forest Service. Thank you for your assistance in this vital project to protect the water quality and quantity within this Forest Service municipal watershed.

Andrea Wood
Mayor, Town of Patagonia

CC: Coronado Forest Service Watershed Manager Jennifer Varin: jvarin@fs.fed.us
Attachment: Model Projections of an Imminent Transition to a More Arid Climate in
Southwestern North America



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Andrea Wood
Mayor

August 12, 2020

Pat Risner, President South32 Hermosa Project

2210 East Ft Lowell Tucson, AZ

85719

RE: Water Studies

Greetings Pat:

In April of this year, a scientific study was published that finds the US Southwest is in an historic mega-drought. South32's proposed industrial mining activity will have a major impact on the health of the Sonoita Creek Watershed.

Water is the most important natural resource and must be protected. The Town of Patagonia Flood & Flow Committee has created a database of water quality reports and, more importantly, identified missing geographic and temporal data.

We know that South32 has done extensive hydrogeological studies in and around its proposed mine site. In response to a request for all company water reports, South32 has previously provided two annual reports to a state agency on the water treatment plant. The Town asks that South32 demonstrate full transparency by providing any and all water studies conducted by South32 and/or its predecessors to be shared with the community in order to be able to make informed decisions about the future of life in our bio-region.

Will South32 provide all the water studies in its possession to the Town of Patagonia Flood & Flow Committee so the information can be shared across this bio-region and allow for informed decision making?

Thank you for your timely response to our request.

Andrea Wood
Mayor, Town of Patagonia